

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 AGR-20 OMB-01 CIEP-03

STR-08 TAR-02 AID-20 FDRE-00 TRSE-00 DRC-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /196 W
----- 050379

O 061400Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9873

USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EGEN, EAID, CY, FR, EC

SUBJ: LEMON SITUATION IN CYPRUS

REF: PARIS 20937 (NOTAL)

LONDON AND TEL AVIV FOR AGATT

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

1. CYPRUS NORMALLY SHIPS ABOUT 4000 LONG TONS OF
LEMONS TO FRANCE AND OTHER EC COUNTRIES IN SEPTEMBER
AND OCTOBER. ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF CYPRUS' LEMON
GROWING AREAS ARE NOW UNDER TURK ARMY CONTROL. GOC
HAS REPORTEDLY ASKED EC COUNTRIES TO BOYCOTT ANY CYPRUS
CITRUS EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM TURK CONTROLLED CYPRUS,
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STATING THAT THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED STOLEN PROPERTY.

ANY LEMONS WHICH DO FIND THEIR WAY TO FRANCE WOULD BE OF INFERIOR QUALITY BECAUSE THE GROVES IN THE TURK AREA HAVE NOT BEEN IRRIGATED, A NECESSITY FOR HARVEST OF EARLY LEMONS. LACK OF CIVILIAN MANPOWER IN TURK CONTROLLED AREA WOULD CONSTITUTE FURTHER MAJOR OBSTACLE TO LEMON HARVEST, PACKING, AND SHIPPING.

2. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE EARLY CYPRUS LEMONS CAN BE DISCOUNTED AS FACTOR IN FRENCH MARKET, IN 1974. CALIFORNIA/ARIZONA GROWERS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION.

3. COMMENT - GOC WOULD PROBABLY WELCOME SPEEDY FILLING OF GAP IN FRENCH AND EC CITRUS MARKET BY US SHIPPERS, AS IT WOULD PRESENT ONE MORE OBSTACLE TO TURK EXPROPRIATION OF CITRUS EXPORT CROP. ACCORDING ONE SENIOR TURK CYPRIOT OFFICIAL, KYRENIA LEMON CROP NOW BEING PICKED AND SHIPPED TO TURKEY FOR EXPORT AS PART OF TURK LEMON CROP. WE DO NOT KNOW IF THIS IS TRUE. CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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